

# *Harrisonburg-Rockingham Local Human Rights Committee*

## **MEETING MINUTES**

**July 14, 2014**

**Members Present:** Cindy Ring, Virginia Luong, Gayl Brunk

**Others Present:** Chuck Collins (HR Advocate), Terri Gibbs (The Arc), John Humphreys (Fair Haven Residential Services), Kathy Nelson (HRCBS), Nancy Hopkins-Garriss (Pleasant View, Inc.), Joy Wood and Gina Sprouser (CC & Associates), Liam Sullivan (Harrisonburg Treatment Center)

### **CALL TO ORDER**

The meeting was called to order at 2:00 pm.

Those in attendance made introductions.

### **MINUTES**

A motion to approve the minutes from the April 2014 meeting as mailed was made by Cindy Ring, seconded by Virginia Luong and unanimously approved by the Committee.

### **AGENDA**

Changes were made to Item # 4: Annual presentations by RMH and CJ Design will be moved to the October Meeting and Harrisonburg Rockingham CSB will present today.

### **ELECTION OF OFFICERS**

Nominations were made for the following Officer Positions for the coming year: Gayl Brunk as Chair person; Cindy Ring as Vice Chair and Virginia Luong as Secretary. Cindy Ring motioned to approve the nominations. Virginia Luong seconded the motion. Unanimous approval by the Committee.

### **PUBLIC COMMENT**

None noted.

### **ANNUAL PROGRAM REPORTS**

Prior to the Annual Report presentations, Gayl Brunk thanks all of the Affiliates for having their reports completed and available to the Committee Members for review prior to the date of the meeting.

**The Arc:** The 2013 Annual Report was presented by Terri Gibbs. The Arc is a day support program that currently serves 29 ID individuals. All staff, participants and volunteers receive Human Rights Training using picture sheet and a PowerPoint presentation created by senior staff. In November 2013, some of the staff attended an HR training conducted by the Regional Advocate, Chuck Collins. There have been Management changes during the 2013 calendar year. There were 7 Human Rights incidents reported during the 2013 calendar year, 6 of which involved peer to peer incidents.

**Harrisonburg Rockingham CSB:** The 2013 Annual Report was presented by Kathy Nelson. Harrisonburg Rockingham CSB provides an array of services to adults and children with mental health, intellectual disability and/or substance use concerns. The agency served approximately 2000 individuals during the calendar year. Services include, MH, ID and SA case management, medication management, mental health skill building services, psychosocial rehabilitation, individual and group MH and SA psychotherapy, emergency services, peer support and crisis stabilization in a residential setting. Each new staff and student intern is oriented to the Human Rights system through a PowerPoint orientation and quiz and additional information is provided at a

group orientation session held during the first month of employment. All staff meet the annual training requirements either by attending an in-service or reviewing the PowerPoint training and completing a competency test. This year the in-service training was presented by Chuck Collins, the Regional Advocate. One management change occurred during 2013, Ellen Harrison was hired as the Director of Acute Services and started in that position in January. Human Rights reports for 2013 included 4 Peer to Peer incidents all of which were handled programmatically and none of which resulted in any abuse/neglect findings. There were also 11 Complaints; 9 informal and 2 formal. The complaint categories included 1 Assurance of Rights; 6 Dignity; 2 Services and 2 Access to and Amendment of Services Record. All complaints were resolved at the level of Director or below.

### **ADVOCATE REPORT**

Chuck Collins reported the four HR LHRC reappointments and the one first appointment have been approved by the State Human Rights Committee. Chuck reported the New Commissioner has slowed down the closing of the Training Centers while recent newspaper articles report State Legislators are questioning the closing of all Training Centers. Despite this, DOJ placements are carrying on. Chuck reported there is no additional news regarding the changes being made to the Human Rights Regulations; he speculates the changes will not be approved and in place before next calendar year. The changes in the drafted regulations are primarily to the complaint process and the role of the LHRCs. Chuck Collins reported Margaret Walsh will be retiring from her current position of State Human Rights Director this month. Chuck Collins spoke about the Reach Program and solicited Affiliates input as to their experiences in working with the Reach Program. He offered to invite the Director of Reach to come to a future HR LHRC Meeting. Gayl Brunk will follow- up on this.

### **OTHER BUSINESS /AFFILIATE COMMENTS.**

Liam Sullivan of Harrisonburg Treatment Center gave a brief update on the agency's progress in becoming licensed and opened for business. He reports this process has been much slower than anticipated..

### **NEXT MEETING**

The next meeting is scheduled for **Monday, October 20, 2014 at 2:00 pm**. The meeting will be held in the Lucy F. Simms Board Conference Room. The Lucy F. Simms Building is located at 620 Simms Avenue Harrisonburg, VA 22802

### **EXECUTIVE SESSION**

Gayl Brunk moved the committee go into Executive session under section 2.23711 (A), Subparagraph of the Virginia Code. Virginia Luong seconded the motion and the motion carried.

The Committee met in Executive Session for the purpose of a Confidential Matter not related to public business..

Upon returning to open session, Gayl Brunk moved that the Committee certify that to the best of each member's knowledge, (1) only public business matters lawfully exempted from open meeting requirements by Virginia law were discussed in the executive meeting to which this certification resolution applies, and (2) only such public business matter as were identified in the motion convening the executive meeting were heard, discussed or considered by the Board, and (3) the proposed treatment plan was approved by the committee. The above certifications were confirmed by a roll call of all members present.

There being no other business, the meeting was adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,

Virginia Luong  
HRLHRC Secretary

Kathy Nelson  
HRCSB Liaison/Recording Secretary